

## HAWAI'I COALITION FOR DADS

# Hawai'i Dads (Makua kàne)

Spring • 2005  
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*June was Father's Month in Hawai'i*

### HCD's CELEBRATE FATHERS events

Hawai'i Coalition for Dads' 7th Annual CELEBRATE FATHERS events were held on Saturday, June 18th at Pearlridge Uptown and Windward Mall in Kaneohe.



**Pearlridge Father-Child Look-Alike Contest Winners** (r.-to-l.): Jeff Baumgarten & Peyton (1st) and Byron Washington, Jr. & Jaelan (2nd).

nurturing their keiki at Pearlridge and the Windward Mall with a **Golden Dads gift bags**—which included an official *Golden Dads* button, a copy of NFI's *Directions for Dads™* CD-ROM, NFI's new *No Ifs* awareness bracelet ("I'd be a better dad if: I had more money...time...less work...if..."), and other local and national fatherhood support materials. On Father's Day weekend NFI's 2005 Golden Dads Campaign honored 10,000 fathers in malls, zoos, and parks in 20 cities from Honolulu to Chicago to Boston (see [www.fatherhood.org](http://www.fatherhood.org)).

Family-friendly activities and information were provided by the Hawai'i Coalition for Dads, PACT-Hana Like & Early Head Start/Head Start, AAA Hawaii, Good Beginnings Alliance, Hawaii Bicycling League, HCAP Head Start, Kaneohe Community Family Center, Ke Ola Mamo, PARENTS, Prudential Locations Foundation, and Saab Hawaii.

HCD's CELEBRATE FATHERS events were carried out this June with support from a grant from the **Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund**.

These events celebrated "June is Father's Month," as proclaimed in ceremonies by Governor Linda Lingle and Lt. Governor Duke Aiona, Mayor Mufi Hannemann, and the Honolulu City Council.

HCD's CELEBRATE FATHERS events included Father-Child Look-Alike Contests, face painting, magic, fun games and activities, entertainment, prizes, and information booths for dads, kids, and families. These events are held each year to motivate, inspire, reach out to, and thank the important dads and all special men in the lives of Hawai'i's children.

Entertainers at **Pearlridge** included Jesse Rivera, Hula Halau Olana, Country Dancers of Hawaii, Al—The Magician, Terry Brown and his Ukulele Kids, and Hawaii Square Dancers; and at **Windward Mall**, Any Kine Ohana, Maunaloa, and balloon figures.

The **Father-Child Look-Alike Contest** winners were fathers/sons Jeff Baumgarten and Peyton (1st) and Byron Washington, Jr. and Jaelan (2nd) at Pearlridge, and father/daughter Walaka Yam and Kailanapua (1st) at the Windward Mall.

HCD partnered with the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) to praise several hundred dads interacting and nurturing



**Windward Mall Father-Child Look-Alike Contest Winners:** Father/daughter Walaka Yam & Kailanapua.

~HI Dads~

### 15th Nat'l CAN Conference - Boston - April 21, 2005

## HCD's Nurturing Fathers/Play+Learn Project at Waiawa

The Hawai'i Coalition for Dads' unique Nurturing Fathers/Play+Learn pilot project at the Waiawa Correctional Facility on O'ahu was presented at the 15th National Child Abuse and Neglect Conference in Boston on Thursday, April 21, 2005.

Twenty-two conferees, many with special prison projects for incarcerated fathers and mothers in their home communities, attended the *Power of Partnership for Supporting Children of Incarcerated Parents* 90-minute workshop.



**Greg Farstrup**—HCD Coordinator—and **Wayna Buch**—Director of the Good Beginnings Alliance's SKIP (Supporting Keiki of Incarcerated Parents) program (in photo at left)—gave Power Point presentations highlighting the success of blending father-child playgroups with Nurturing Fathers classes, handed out additional descriptive materials, and answered questions about specific aspects of HCD's unique father-child focused Waiawa prison project from workshop attendees carrying out or planning similar projects in Kentucky, Arizona, Chicago, and elsewhere.

#### Project Background:

The Nurturing Fathers/Play+Learn Project (NF/P+L), supported by a grant from the Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund, began as a Hawai'i Coalition for Dads pilot project in April 2003. The 13-week Nurturing Fathers classes and accompanying Play+Learn groups began in May of 2003, with 10 inmate fathers and 15 children, ages 18 months – 5 years. The first session of the pilot ended on July 31, 2003.

#### Project Components:

1. Nurturing Fathers classes by The Institute For Family Enrichment (TIFFE) – Healing and Nurturing for father-inmates;
2. Play+Learn Groups by the Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA) – Parenting Education for fathers through playing with their child(ren);
3. Waiawa Support Group for Care Providers – Support and counseling; and
4. Waiawa KASH Box – Substance abuse counseling.

#### Project objectives:

- To build a system of support for incarcerated fathers.
- To facilitate a process of self-reflection and healing which enables inmate fathers to recognize the importance of and acquire the ability to self-nurture and nurture others.
- To provide inmate fathers with the knowledge and skills for positive parenting of their children.
- To facilitate and support the attitudinal change in inmate fathers in their role as their child's first teacher.
- To support healthier relationships for healthier, resilient families.
- To ensure that our children have safe and nurturing families.

Two Nurturing Fathers/Play+Learn Project sessions were carried out in the Spring and Fall of 2004. The first NF/P+L project session was completed this Spring; the 2nd session is set to begin in September, 2005. GBA and TIFFE are set to continue the project with funding from the Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

For more information contact Greg at HCD, 841-2245; [HawaiiDads@pachthawaii.org](mailto:HawaiiDads@pachthawaii.org). ~HI Dads~

**ACT 244-03 (SB 556) — Kids first for divorcing parents****Shared parenting for fathers & mothers in Family Court**

ACT 244-03 provides more tools for parents with children who become divorced in Hawai'i to share parenting opportunities and duties that help them raise healthy and happy children.

This new improvement to Hawai'i's Family Court system is based on recommendations and support from the Senate's SR40 Task Force for improving Family Court that was convened by Senators Suzanne Chun Oakland and Carol Fukunaga after the 2004 Legislative session.

Designed to help strengthen the involvement of both fathers and mothers with their children and enhance the "family friendliness" of Family Court, ACT 244 requires that custody shall be awarded to assure frequent, continuing, and meaningful contact with both parents, encourages both parents to share the responsibility of raising their child, and requires a useable parenting plan.

**Parenting plans.**

ACT 244 describes parenting plans as follows:

"(a) For every action that includes a contested custody of children, both parties or both parents shall develop either a mutually agreed-upon general parenting plan or separate individually-desired parenting plan, and file the plan at the outset of the action.

"(b) A parenting plan may include a general outline relating to parental responsibilities and parenting time. A general parenting plan may also allow the parents to develop a more detailed agreement on an informal basis.

"(c) A detailed parenting plan may include, but is not limited to, provisions relating to: (1) Residential schedule; (2) Holiday, birthday, and vacation planning; (3) Parental decision-making and responsibility; (4) Breastfeeding, if applicable; (5) Information sharing and access; (6) Relocation of parents; (7) Telephone access and other means of communication; (8) Right of first refusal procedures; (9) Transportation; and (10) Methods for changing or enforcing the parenting plan and for resolving disputes.

"(d) If the parties cannot agree on a parenting plan, the court may: (1) Order the parties to participate in alternative dispute resolution and in counseling with a person with professional experience in child custody or parenting issues, or with other appropriate education, unless there is a finding of family violence; and (2) Develop and file a detailed parenting plan when requested by either of the parties or parents.

"(e) The court or the parties may revise and amend the parenting plan from time to time."

**Meaningful contact.**

ACT 244 also says custody should be awarded to both parents or to either parent according to the best interests of the child, "and the court may also consider the importance of frequent, continuing, and *meaningful contact* of each parent with the child unless the court finds that a parent is unable to act in the best interest of the child."

Meaningful contact is defined as "parent and child interactions, activities, and experiences, performed together, which nurture the parent-child attachment and relationship, while contributing to the child's development in a positive and effective manner." ~HI Dads~

**ACT 148-03 (SB 1780) — Sunset extended; placed in Dept. of Human Services****State Commission on Fatherhood continues**

The newly formed State Commission on Fatherhood—which began monthly meetings in December 2004—will continue with its efforts to promote healthy family relationships between parents and children.

ACT 148-03 extended the sunset date for the State Commission on Fatherhood to June 30, 2007, and transferred the Commission from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to the Department of Human Services.

The Commission on Fatherhood's four committees—1) Public Information and Education, 2) Policy and Practices, 3) Public Relations and Promotion, and 4) Recognition and Events—will work to set and carry out the Commission's strategic plan. ~HI Dads~



## No more Mr. "Tough Guy"

### Promoting emotional intelligence

There's a new generation of fathers out there, with an opportunity to put an end to the "tough guy" culture that still exists for men and boys. This opportunity demands that we show the courage and resolve necessary to break the cultural stereotypes that are still dominant today. Here are five ways to help your son to be more emotionally intelligent:

1. **Show physical affection to your son.** Hug him, as well as other men that you care for. Show him that men can show love for each other. Research shows that boys who receive physical affection from their fathers are happier, healthier, smarter, etc. If you're squirming, you're a good candidate for this one!
2. **Have enough involvement in your son's life to know who else might be reinforcing the "old school" style.** This could include teachers, coaches, other family members, etc. If necessary, intervene and set new guidelines.
3. **Reinforce your son's knowledge of emotions.** Help him identify what he's feeling. When you say, "You seem really sad right now," you help him to identify the feeling, and to "own it."
4. **Judge people less and empathize more.** Instead of saying, "What a jerk he is!" you can say, "He seems to be really angry right now." Being kind and loving yourself will create a clear path for your son.
5. **Keep examining how you raise your son.** Do you push him away emotionally, or shame him when he's showing signs of "weakness?" Continually monitor your responses to his behavior, and if possible, have a third party that watches your interactions as well.

The prevailing cultural ideas about manhood have done a great deal of harm to the development of strong, sensitive, and nurturing men.

The responsibility of fathers today is to be aware of these cultural myths, and to show their sons a new path.

From: "Fathers, Anger, and Breaking Barriers" in Mark Brandenburg's *Dads Don't Fix Your Kids* Newsletter (see: [www.markbrandenburg.com](http://www.markbrandenburg.com)).

~HI Dads~



## New NFI tool for businesses

### Father-Friendly Check-Up™

The National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI) has launched an online *Father-Friendly Check-Up™ for Business* to help businesses determine the health of their work environment as it relates to helping working fathers find work and family balance.

Studies by major corporations show that *productivity and loyalty increase* when employees balance work and family.

The check-up uses a business approach to creating a better environment that not only helps working fathers succeed, but ultimately helps the business excel and succeed in today's modern world of work.

The *Father-Friendly Check-Up™ for Business* will allow a company to determine its effectiveness in working with fathers on four distinct measures:

- Leadership and Business Philosophy
- Management Training
- Human Resource Programs and Policies
- Community/Marketplace Perception of the Business.

The online check-up takes half an hour to complete and provides businesses with a full prescription for making a company more father-friendly.

Go to [www.fatherhood.org](http://www.fatherhood.org) to hook up with NFI's *Father-Friendly Check-Up™ for Business*. ~HI Dads~

By Kent M. Keith ([www.kentmkeith.com](http://www.kentmkeith.com))

## The Paradoxical Commandments

People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered.

**Love them anyway.**

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

**Do good anyway.**

If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies.

**Succeed anyway.**

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

**Do good anyway.**

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.

**Be honest and frank anyway.**

The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds.

**Think big anyway.**

People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs.

**Fight for a few underdogs anyway.**

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

**Build anyway.**

People really need help but may attack you if you do help them.

**Help people anyway.**

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.

**Give the world the best you have anyway.**

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~HI Dads~

*School, work, church*

## All Pro Dad's Day

All Pro Dad's Day is a monthly event before school hours where fathers and their children meet with other dads and kids at a local restaurant or school cafeteria for breakfast.

They hear great speakers on a wide range of family topics, spend time together, and are equipped with resources to strengthen their relationship.

### How do I start an All Pro Dad's Day?

All Pro Dad will send you a DVD at no charge that explains this life-changing event and how you can be an All Pro Dad team captain for us in your community.

All Pro Dad resources will be provided to you for free and All Pro Dad's Day will take very little of your time to plan.

For a FREE All Pro Dad's Day DVD, go to: [www.all-prodads.com/dadsday.asp](http://www.all-prodads.com/dadsday.asp).

~HI Dads~

## Support the HAWAII COALITION FOR DADS.

*Help promote involved, nurturing, responsible fatherhood in Hawai'i.*

☐ Please keep me informed about the activities of the Hawai'i Coalition for Dads.

☐ I would like to volunteer to help; contact me.

☐ Here is my contribution. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

~ Your donations are tax-deductible. ~

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **Hawai'i Coalition for Dads/PACT**

...and send it to: 1485 Linapuni St. #105

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819

Phone: 841-2245

E-mail: [HawaiiDads@pacthawaii.org](mailto:HawaiiDads@pacthawaii.org)

**HAWAII COALITION FOR DADS**

Promoting involved, nurturing, responsible fatherhood.

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**GOALS:**

1. To increase community awareness about fatherhood.
2. To promote the availability and accessibility of quality, father-centered community resources.
3. To advocate for informed public policy regarding fatherhood.
4. To strengthen community collaboration in support of fatherhood.
5. To respect and honor everyone's unique role in children's lives.

The Hawai'i Coalition for Dads, with funding from the Hawai'i Children's Trust Fund under the umbrella of Parents And Children Together (PACT), is a group of individuals and organizations (including *Alu Like, Family Support Services of West Hawai'i, Good Beginnings Alliance, Hana Like Home Visitor Program, Head Start agencies, Kamehameha Schools' Extension Education Division, Molokai Mediation Center, PARENTS, and Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Support Center*) that shares information about services to fathers and promotes involved, nurturing, responsible fatherhood.

**Fatherhood & Family Resources (O`ahu)****Fathering & Parenting Education & Support:**

1. **TIFFE** (Nurturing Fathers; Playgroups) (596-8433; tiffe.org)
2. **The Baby Hui** (groups for Dads, and Moms) (735-2484; thebabyhui.org)
3. **Navy Fleet & Family Support Center** (Boot Camp For New Dads) (473-4222; greatlifeohawaii.com)
4. **PARENTS** (Confident Parenting Classes) (235-0488)
5. **Parents Without Partners** (262-6442)
6. **The Parent Line** (Info & Referral) (526-1222; theparentline.org)
7. **AUW – 211**; auw.org/211
8. **HPIRG** (HI Parental Information & Resource Centers) (841-6177; hawaiiipirc.org)
9. **SPIN** (Special Parent Information Network) (586-8126; spinhawaii.org)
10. **Big Brothers Big Sisters** (support for single dads and moms) (521-3811; bigshonolulu.org)
11. **Families For R.E.A.L.** (Leeward: 453-6478; Windward: 233-5656)
12. **Good Beginnings Alliance** (Playgroups) (531-5502; goodbeginnings.org)
13. **ALU LIKE** (Hawaiian families) (535-6700; alulike.org)
14. **Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center** (Hawaiian families) (847-1302; qlcc.org)
15. **PACT** (Hana Like; Head Start) (847-3285; pacthawaii.org)

**Family Counseling:**

1. **Child & Family Service** (681-3500; cfs-hawaii.org)
2. **Catholic Charities Family Services** (536-1794; catholiccharitieshawaii.org)
3. **Hawaii Psychological Assn.** (521-8995; hawaiipsych.org)
4. **Kaiser Medical Center** (432-0000; kaiserpermanente.org):
5. **HMSA** (948-6111; hmsa.com)
6. **Med-QUEST** (587-3521; med-quest.us)
7. Suicide prevention help (DOH - **ACCESS Line: 832-3100**)

**Religious resources:** Contact your place of worship...church, temple, synagogue

**Internet Resources** (check on their "Links", too):

1. **mr.dad** (mrdad.com)
2. **fathers.com** (fathers.com)
3. **Boot Camp For New Dads** (newdads.com)
4. **National Fatherhood Initiative** (fatherhood.org)
5. **Dad at a Distance** (daads.com)